

HOUSE No. 638

By Mrs. Parente of Milford, petition of Marie J. Parente relative to the liability of roller skating and skateboarding rink operators. The Judiciary.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Five.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE LIABILITY OF ROLLER SKATING AND SKATEBOARDING RINK OPERATORS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Chapter 140 of the General Laws, is hereby
2 amended by inserting after section 187 the following section:—
3 SECTION 187A. A person who skates or skateboards in a
4 roller skating or skateboarding rink shall be presumed to have suf-
5 ficient abilities to use same and shall follow any written or oral
6 instruction given its use. A skater or skateboarder shall have the
7 duty to avoid any collision with any other skaters, skateboarders,
8 person or object and the responsibility for such collision shall be
9 solely that of the skater, skateboarder or person involved and not
10 the operator of the rink. The responsibility for a collision with any
11 object shall be solely that of the skater or skateboarder provided
12 such object is properly marked. A skater or skateboarder shall be
13 presumed to know the range of his own ability and shall be pre-
14 sumed to know of the existence of certain unavoidable risks
15 inherent in such sports. Each operator of a rink shall post in one or
16 more conspicuous places in easily read print the above stated
17 duties, responsibilities, presumptions and each operator shall
18 comply with industry accepted safety standards for roller skating
19 and skateboarding equipment, surfaces and supervision.